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CANADIAN FORCES POLICY ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS  
5 SEPTEMBER 1991 - 2 OCTOBER 1991

The following record is based on memory and on reference to various documents. The purpose is to recount the significant events within National Defence Headquarters between 5 September 1991 and 2 October 1991 relative to the Canadian Forces policy on sexual orientation. It does not record activities or events involving correspondence or communication to or from Ministers.

- 5 Sep 91            Briefing note for the Chief of the Defence Staff completed and passed to the Assistant Deputy Minister (Personnel). Briefing Note recommends revocation of the CF policy on sexual orientation.
- 6 Sep 91            CDS, DM and ADM(Per) meet with a small group of officials to discuss the recommendation in the Briefing Note. Decision taken to prepare for revocation of the policy. Although there is no written decision or direction, it was clear that the staff were to make preparations to revoke the policy.
- 9-26 Sep 91        Staff activity related to possible revocation of the policy. Included in this activity was a review of regulations, orders, and instructions that might require cancellation or amendment; work on a new Canadian Forces Administrative Order to deal with inappropriate sexual conduct; the preparation of a draft general message to announce the policy change; and preparation of a communications package (eg, News Release, Backgrounder, Qs & As, etc). As part of this activity, a proposal was developed to announce the policy change to members of Armed Forces Council on 7 Oct 91.

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27 Sep 91 CDS and ADM(Per) met with a small group of officials to review progress to date and to gain agreement on communications issues and principles and on the sequence of events. At that meeting it was agreed that an announcement of the policy change be planned for 1530 hrs 3 Oct 91.

2 Oct 91 Advice received from the office of the CDS that the policy change would not be announced on 3 Oct 91 and that preparations were to be made for an announcement on 9 Oct 91.

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